

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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UNCLAS MONROVIA 3880

PLEASE PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, LI

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL ON ZAIRE CRISIS

THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL APPEARED MAY 23 IN THE LIBERIAN
AGE, ORGAN OF THE RULING TRUE WHIG PARTY:

THE ZAIRE SITUATION

THE SITUATION IN ZAIRE AS WELL AS THE WARS IN CHAD
AND ETHIOPIA POINTS TO THE VULNERABILITY OF AFRICAN
STATES; FOR IN SPITE OF INDEPENDENCE, IN SPITE OF
THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, OR THE UNITED NATIONS,
IN SPITE OF THE MONUMENTAL DEVELOPMENT TASK AFRICAN
COUNTRIES ARE COMMITTED TO, SOME OF THEM HARBOUR
DISSIDENT GROUPS WITHIN THEIR BORDERS DESIGNED TO DE-
STABILIZE THE SITUATION IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

THIS BEHAVIOR ON THE PART OF SOME AFRICAN STATES HAS
BECOME A SERIOUS THREAT TO PEACE ON THE CONTINENT;
FOR SOME OF THESE STATES ARE ACTING AS SURROGATES OF
EUROPEAN ELEMENTS WHO CONTINUE TO DREAM OF EMPIRES
LONG PAST.

THE INTERVENTION OF FRANCE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN
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ENCOURAGING MOVE IN AIDING TO DEFEND A
COUNTRY FROM CONTINUED AGGRESSION, FOR IT SERVES NOTICE
THAT POWERFUL FRIENDS WILL NOT ALWAYS STAND BY
AND PERMIT MISCHIEF-MAKERS TO GIVE AID AND
SUCCOUR TO FRATICIDAL CARNAGE.

IF AFRICA IS GOING THROUGH A DEVELOPMENT DECADE, WHAT

RESULTS CAN BE ACHIEVED FOR THE PEOPLES' BENEFIT WHEN
SUCH INTERRUPTIONS TAKE A COUNTRY BACK MANY YEARS ON
ITS PATH TO PROGRESS?

AFRICANS, THE DISSIDENT ONES AS WELL AS THOSE IN POWER,
SHOULD BEGIN TO APPRECIATE THE VULNERABILITY OF OUR
POSITIONS. THEY SHOULD STOP THROWING BACK THE HAND OF
THE CLOCK ON IDEOLOGICAL GROUNDS; THEY SHOULD STOP
DESTROYING THE MANPOWER NEEDS OF THEIR COUNTRIES AND
BEGIN TO GIVE THEIR ENERGIES AND RESOURCES TO DEVELOP-
MENT AND NOT TO DESTRUCTION AND DE-STABILIZATION.
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